

DAREDEVIL

MARVEL COMICS GROUP™



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DAREDEVIL®

THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR!



YOU TRACKED
ME HALFWAY
ACROSS A
CONTINENT,
MASKED MAN--

--ONLY TO
MEET YOUR
**FIERY
DOOM!**

**"MURDER!"
CRIES THE
MANDRILL!**

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DAREDEVIL, THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR!™

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DEATH OF A NATION?

INSTANT SYNOPSIS:
THE MANDRILL... NEKRA,
HIS PRIESTESS... AND
BLACK SPECTRE, HIS
FEMALE ARMY... ARE
ABOUT TO OVERTHROW
THE UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT!

**INSTANT SYNOPSIS,
PART II:**
WHILE THE SIGHT-
LESS ADVENTURER
DAREDEVIL MOUNTS
A ROPE LADDER TO
BLACK SPECTRE'S
JETCRAFT, MEM-
BERS OF THAT ARMY
HAVE TOPPLED THE
EMPIRE STATE
BUILDING'S BROAD-
CAST TOWER!

**D.D.'S SUPERSENSITIVE
HEARING TAKES IN THE
SOUND OF EACH BEAM
BUCKLING... BENDING...
CRACKING...!**





IF I WERE *YOU*, DAREDEVIL, I WOULD **FORGET** THE **DEAD**--

--AND WORRY INSTEAD ABOUT YOUR *OWN* PROBLEMS. FOR YOU HAVE THEM **APLENTY!**



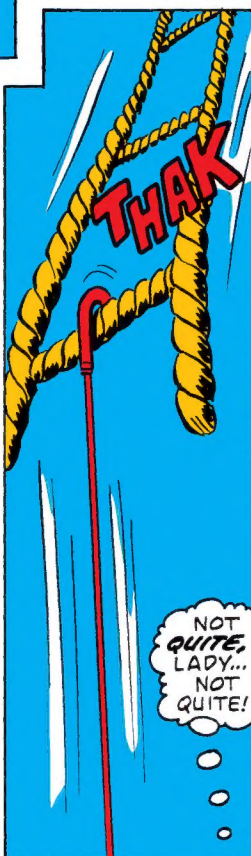
ALLOW ME TO **INTRODUCE** MYSELF, MAN WITHOUT FEAR. I AM **NEKRA**, CALLED THE PRIESTESS OF DARKNESS.

I AM PERHAPS THE **STRONGEST**, MOST **AGILE** FEMALE IN THE WORLD.

AND I CAN-NOT BE **CON-QUERED**... FOR MINE IS THE LIVING POWER OF **HATE!!**

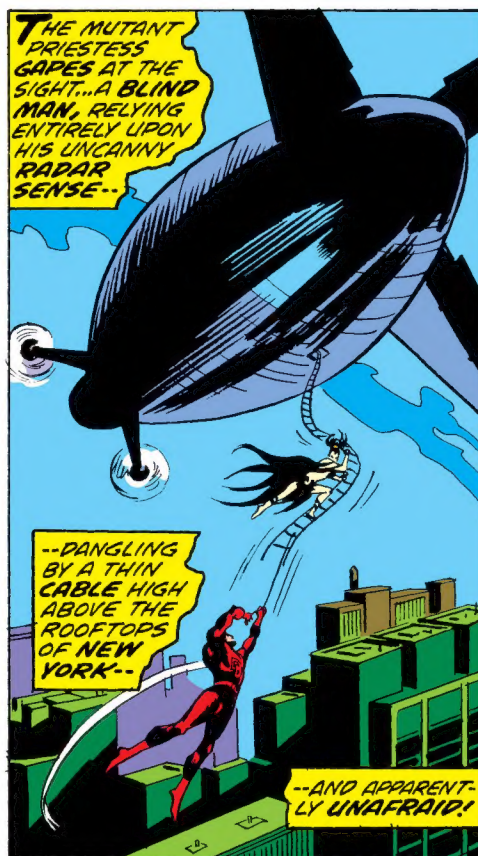


"AND THAT AWESOME FORCE HAS JUST SENT YOU **HURLING** TO YOUR **DOOM!!**"



THAK

NOT **QUITE**, LADY... NOT **QUITE!**

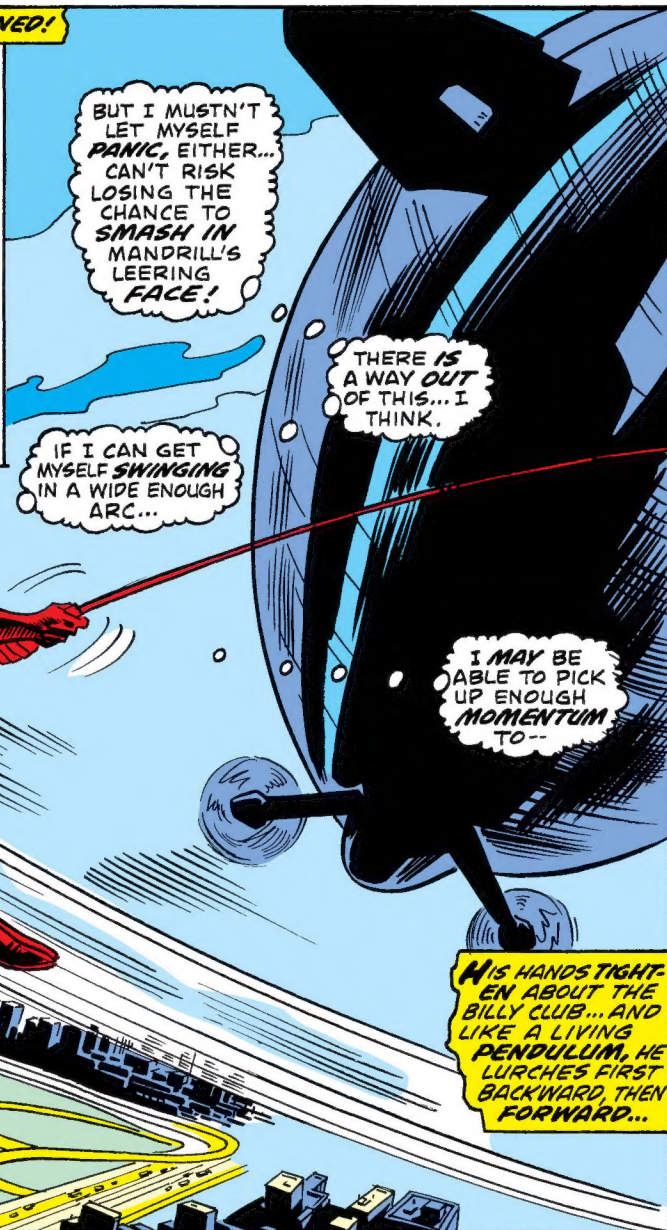


THE **MUTANT** PRIESTESS **GAPES** AT THE **SIGHT**... A **BLIND** MAN, RELYING ENTIRELY UPON HIS **UNCANNY** **RADAR** **SENSE**...

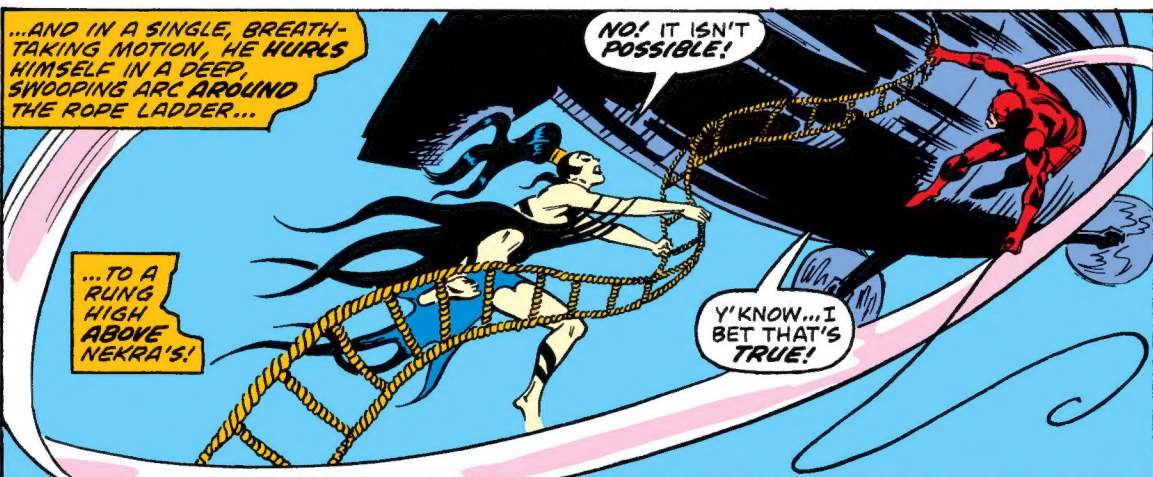
--DANGLING BY A **THIN** **CABLE** HIGH ABOVE THE **ROOFTOPS** OF **NEW YORK**--

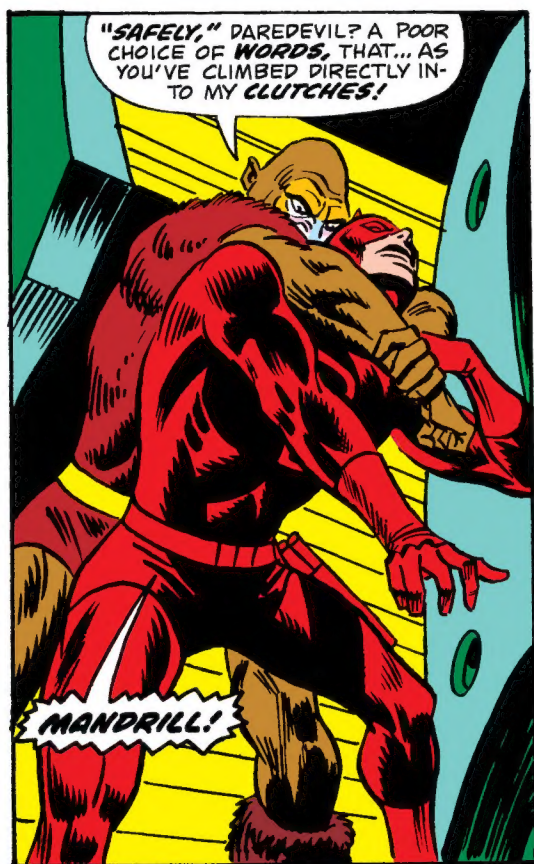
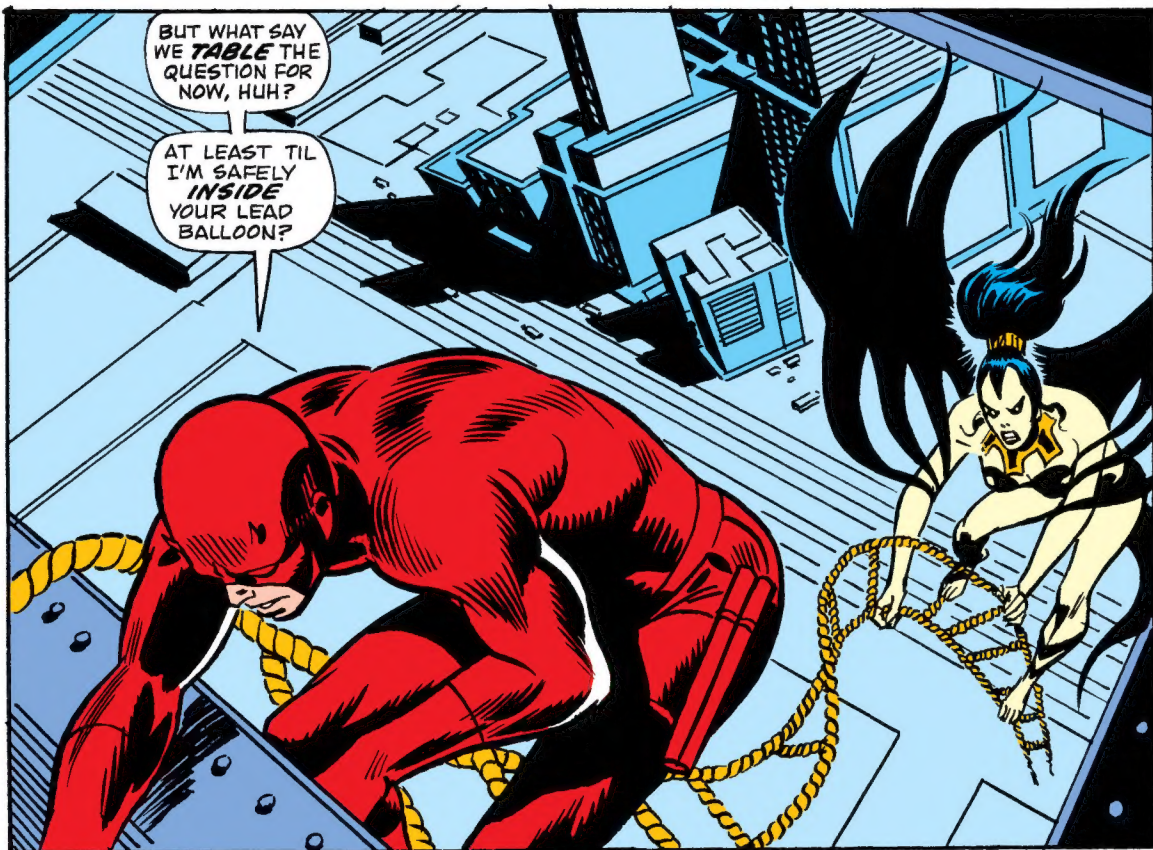
--AND APPARENTLY **UNAFRAID!**

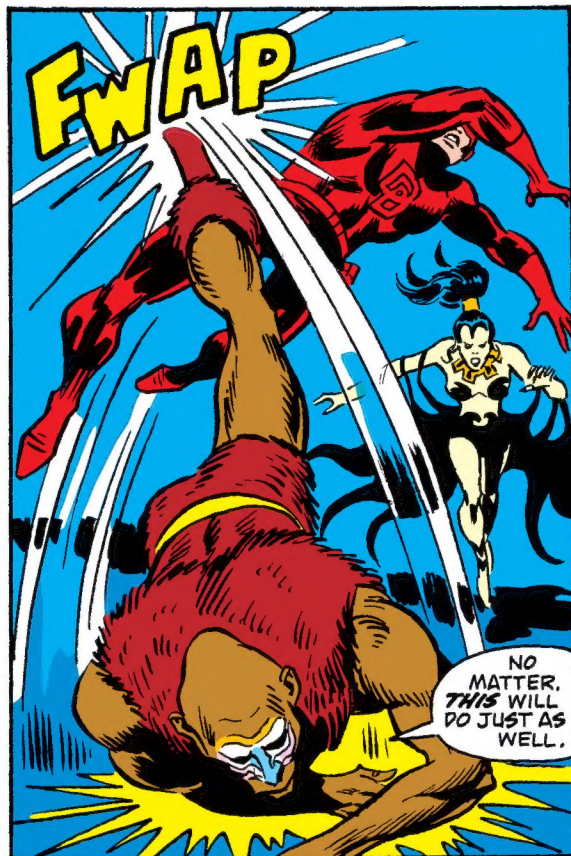
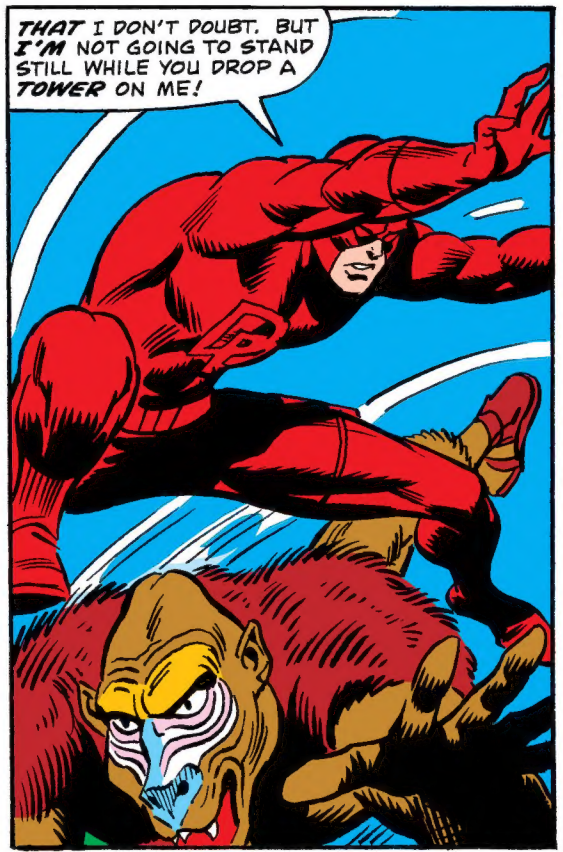
WHICH IS NOT TO SAY HE ISN'T CONCERNED!

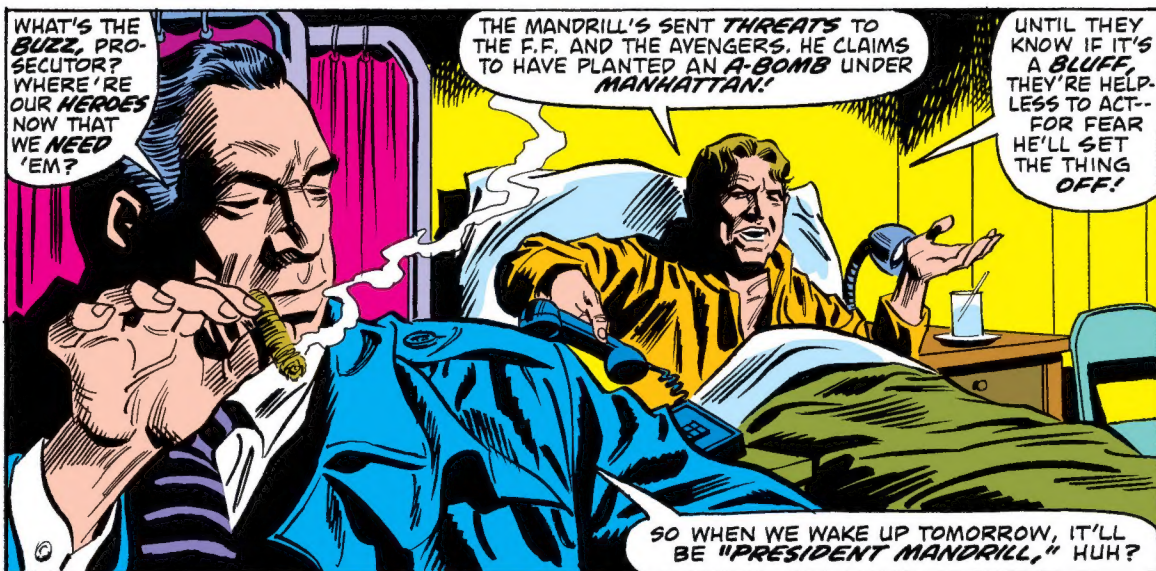
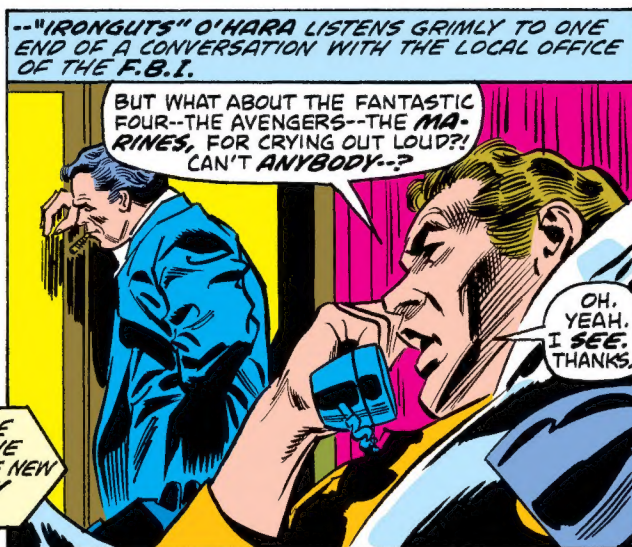
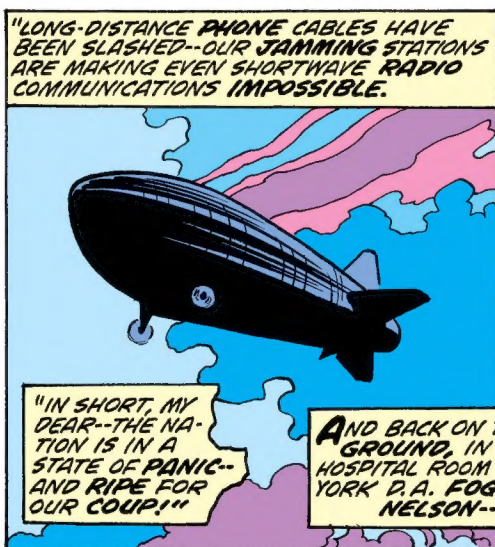
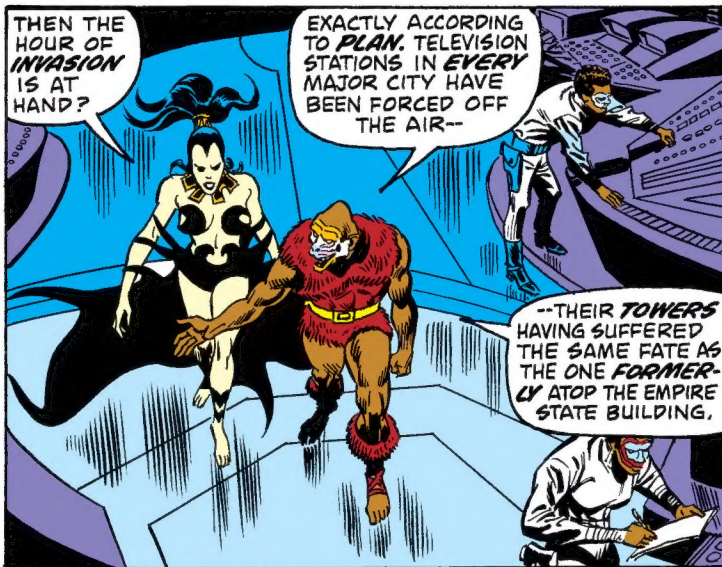


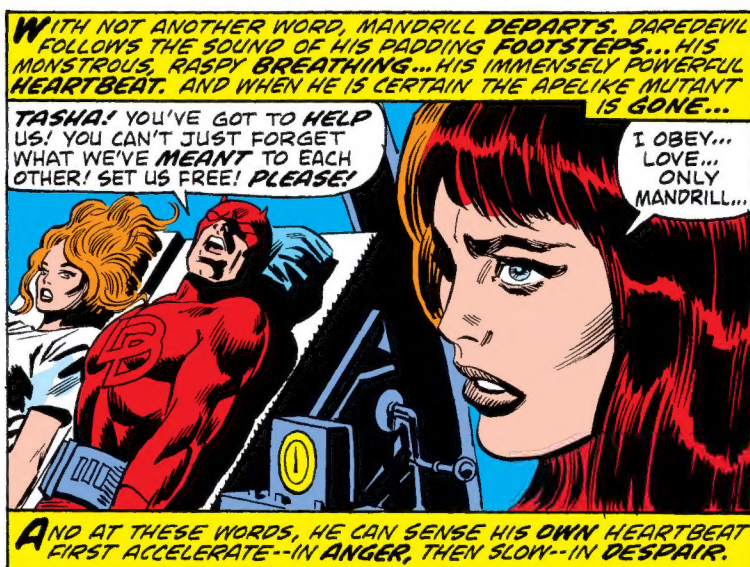
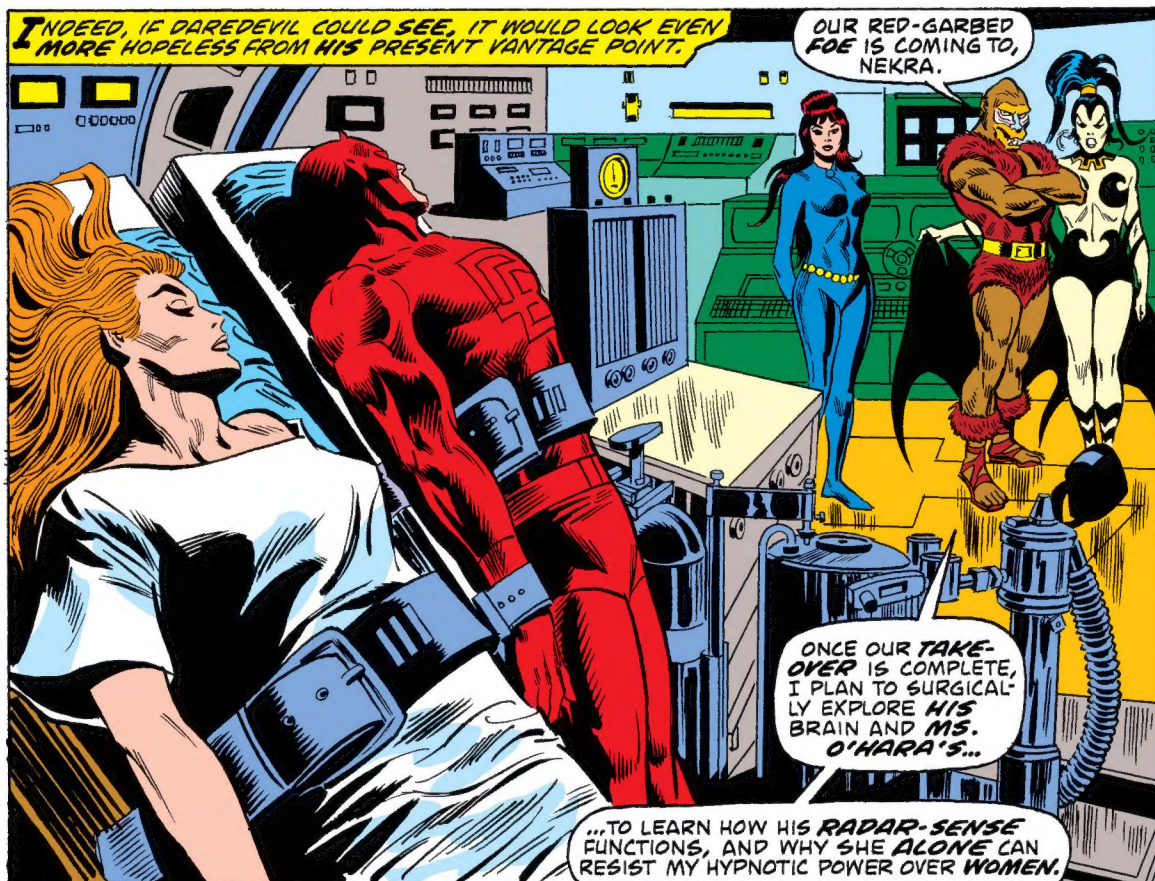
...AND IN A SINGLE, BREATHTAKING MOTION, HE HURLS HIMSELF IN A DEEP, SWOOPING ARC AROUND THE ROPE LADDER...

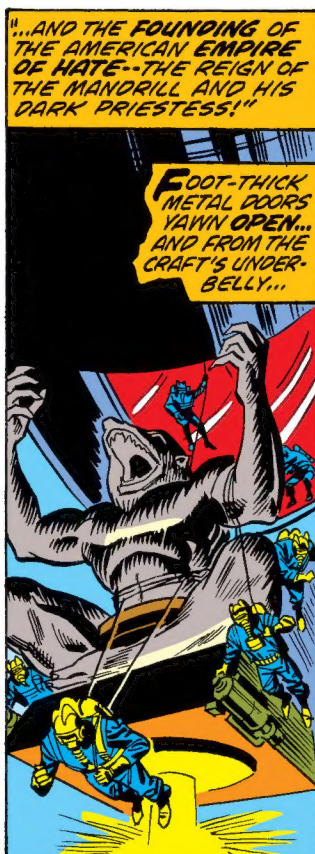
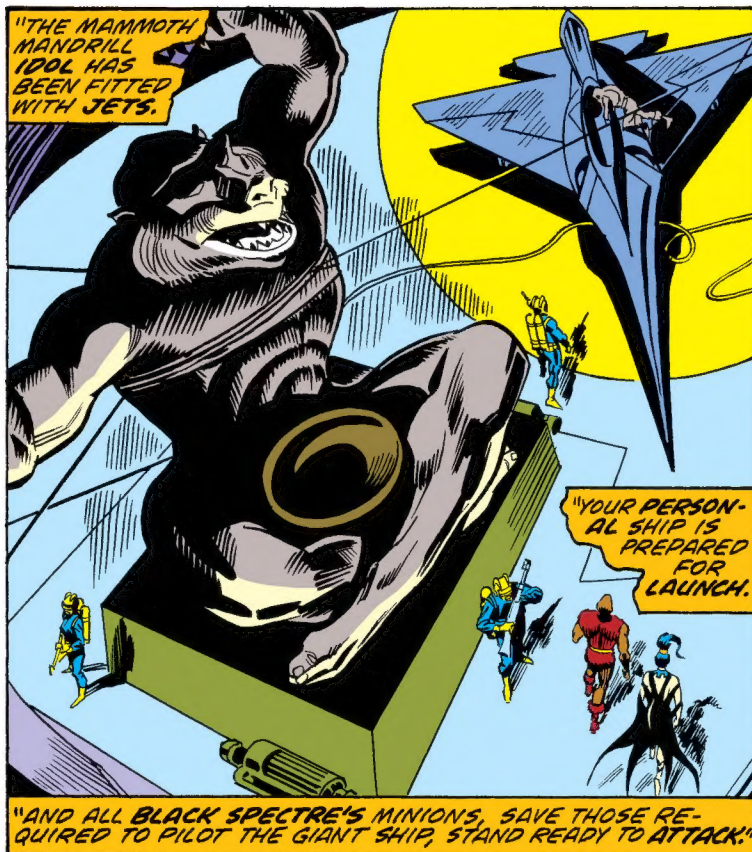












AND THE OCCUPATION OF THE EXECUTIVE MANSION REACHES ITS BIZARRE CLIMAX: THE BOWL IN THE IDOL'S LAP IS LIGHTED. BLACK SPECTRE'S AGENTS DOFF THEIR BULKY UNIFORMS AND REVEAL THEMSELVES AS THE TATTOOED WOMEN OF MANDRILL'S ARMY.

THE PRESIDENT...HIS FAMILY...THE WHITE HOUSE STAFF HAVE LONG SINCE BEEN EVACUATED. THE TROOPS THAT REMAIN ON GUARD HAVE BEEN ORDERED NOT TO FIRE, LEST NEW YORK BE BLASTED INTO ATOMS AS A CONSEQUENCE OF THEIR RESISTANCE. THEY ARE MERELY A TOKEN FORCE...PARALYZED...UNABLE TO ACT.

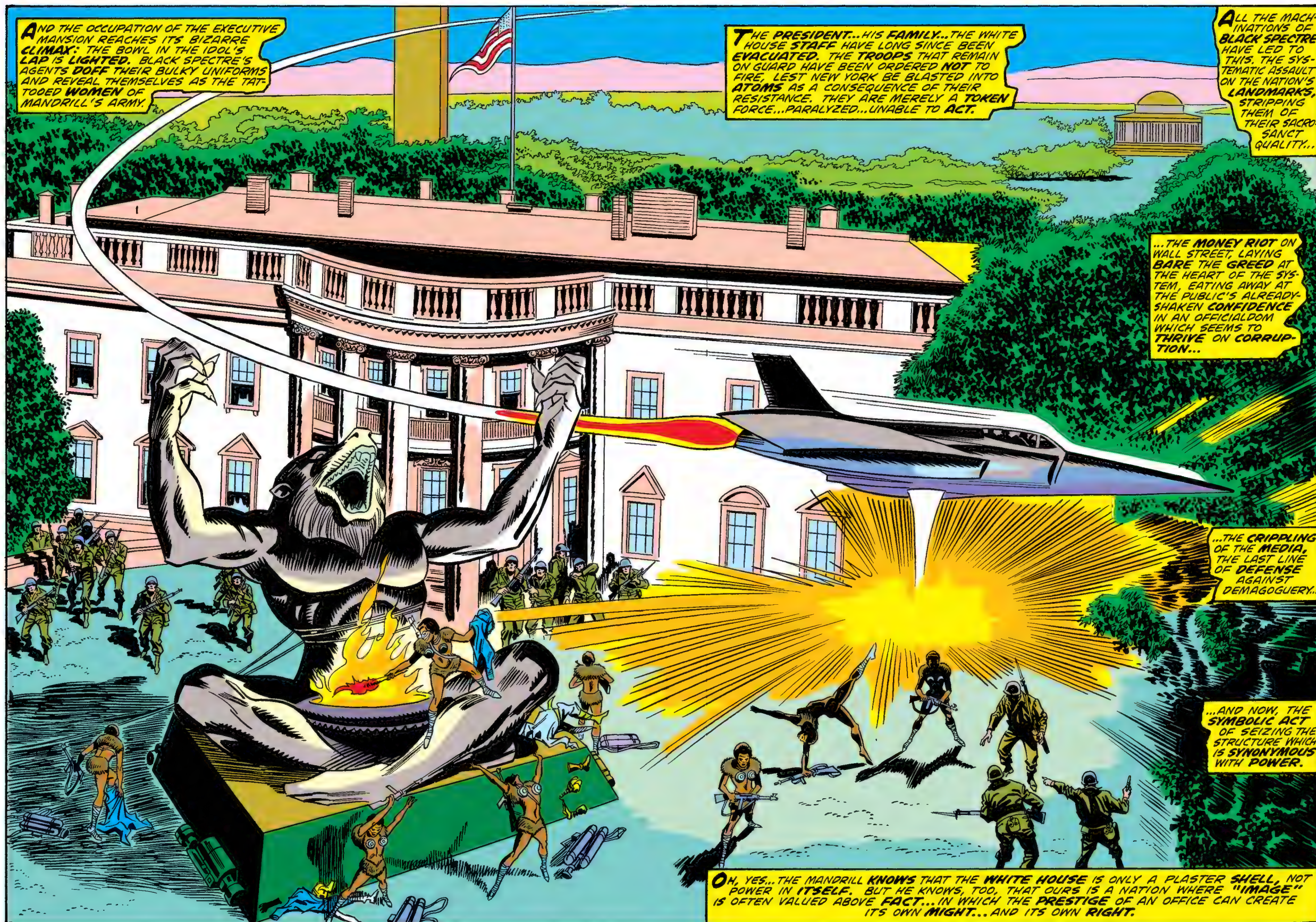
ALL THE MACHINATIONS OF BLACK SPECTRE HAVE LED TO THIS. THE SYSTEMATIC ASSAULT ON THE NATION'S LANDMARKS, STRIPPING THEM OF THEIR SACRO-SANCT QUALITY...

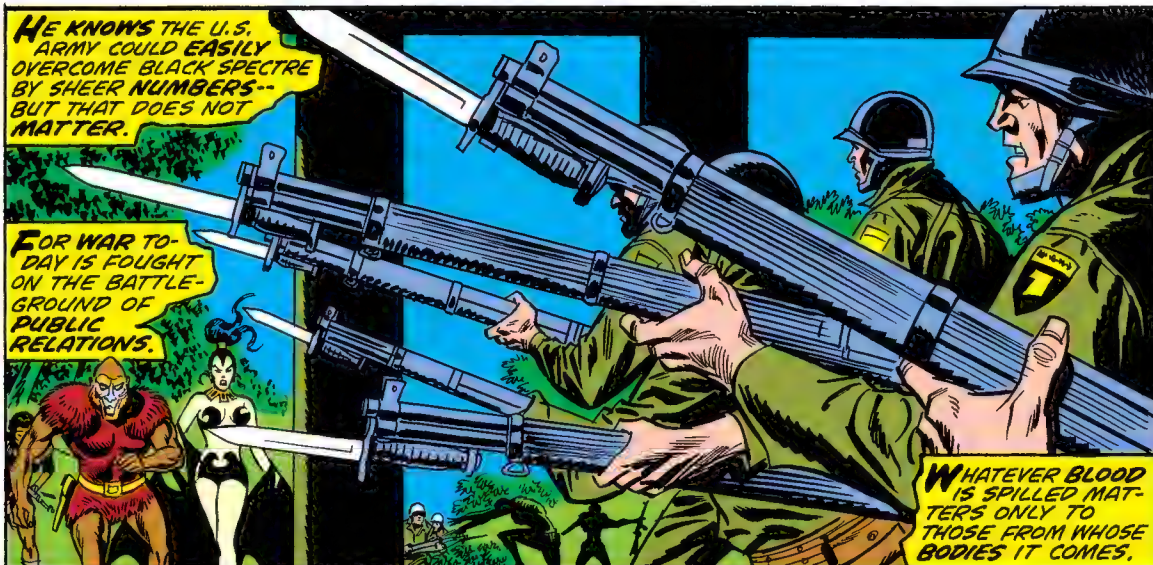
...THE MONEY RIOT ON WALL STREET, LAYING BARE THE GREED AT THE HEART OF THE SYSTEM, EATING AWAY AT THE PUBLIC'S ALREADY-SHAKEN CONFIDENCE IN AN OFFICIALDOM WHICH SEEMS TO THRIVE ON CORRUPTION...

...THE CRIPPLING OF THE MEDIA, THE LAST LINE OF DEFENSE AGAINST DEMAGOGUERY...

...AND NOW, THE SYMBOLIC ACT OF SEIZING THE STRUCTURE WHICH IS SYNONYMOUS WITH POWER.

OH, YES...THE MANDRILL KNOWS THAT THE WHITE HOUSE IS ONLY A PLASTER SHELL, NOT POWER IN ITSELF. BUT HE KNOWS, TOO, THAT OURS IS A NATION WHERE "IMAGE" IS OFTEN VALUED ABOVE FACT...IN WHICH THE PRESTIGE OF AN OFFICE CAN CREATE ITS OWN MIGHT...AND ITS OWN RIGHT.

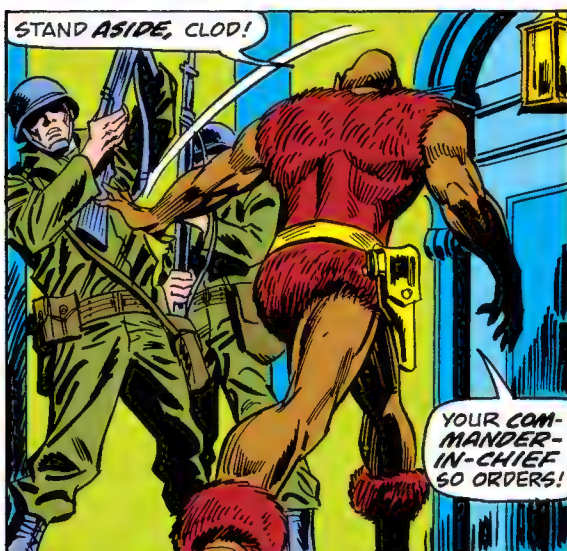




HE KNOWS THE U.S. ARMY COULD EASILY OVERCOME BLACK SPECTRE BY SHEER NUMBERS-- BUT THAT DOES NOT MATTER.

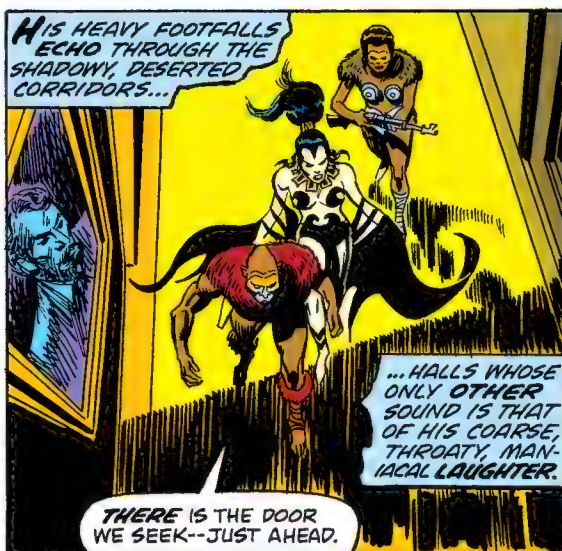
FOR WAR TO-DAY IS FOUGHT ON THE BATTLE-GROUND OF PUBLIC RELATIONS.

WHATEVER BLOOD IS SPILLED MATTERS ONLY TO THOSE FROM WHOSE BODIES IT COMES.



STAND ASIDE, CLOD!

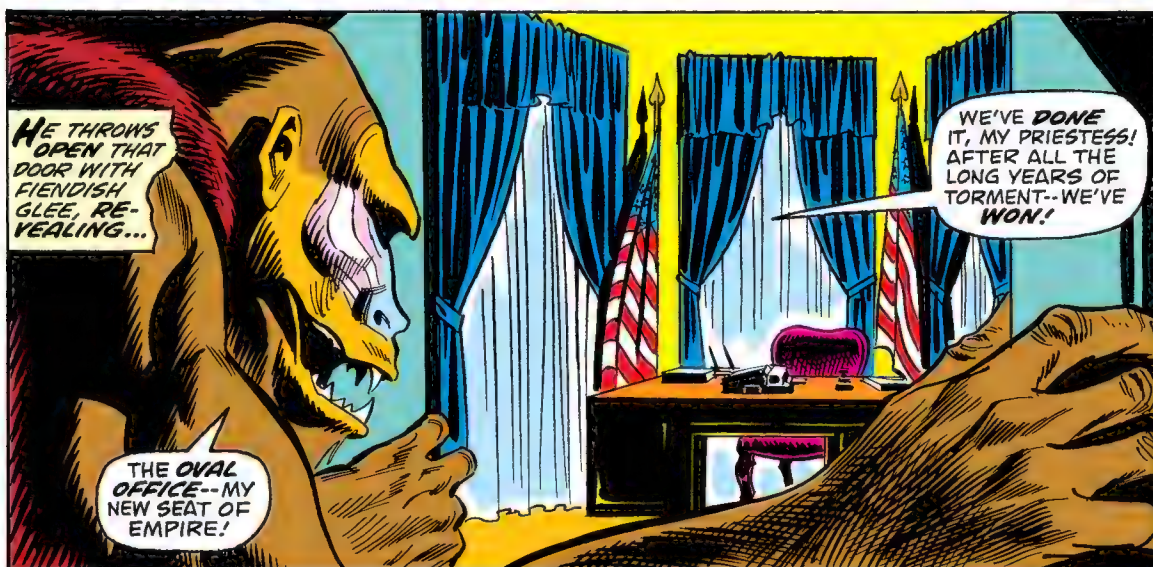
YOUR COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF SO ORDERS!



HIS HEAVY FOOTFALLS ECHO THROUGH THE SHADOWY, DESERTED CORRIDORS...

... HALLS WHOSE ONLY OTHER SOUND IS THAT OF HIS COARSE, THROATY, MANIACAL LAUGHTER.

THERE IS THE DOOR WE SEEK--JUST AHEAD.

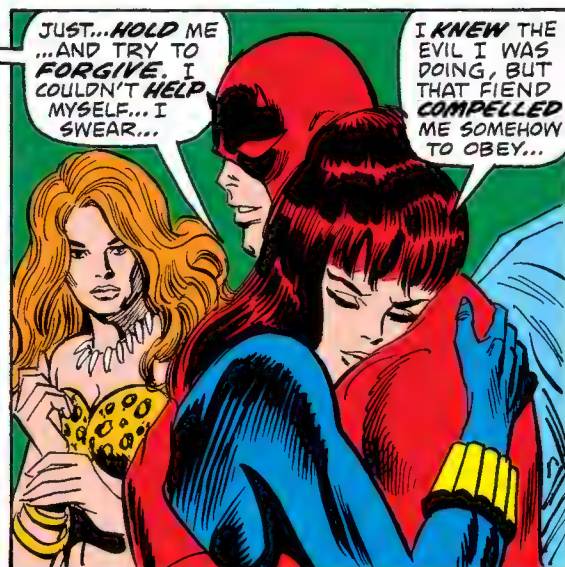
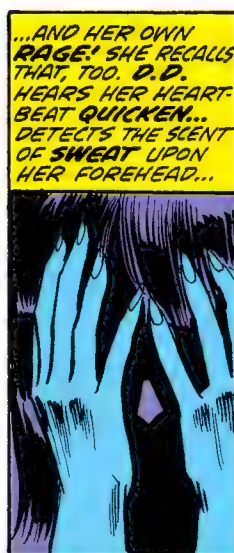
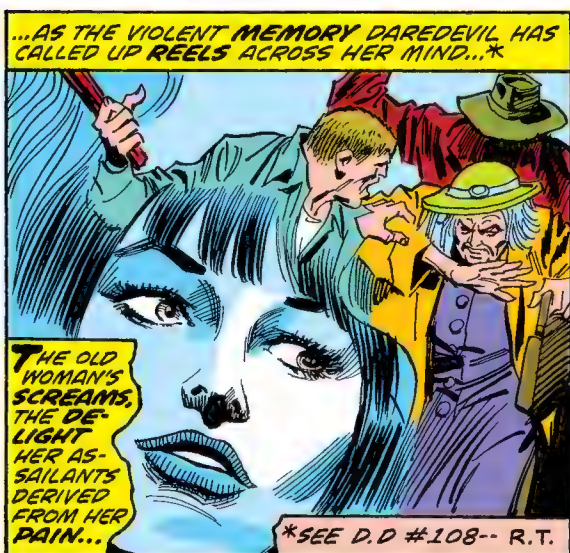
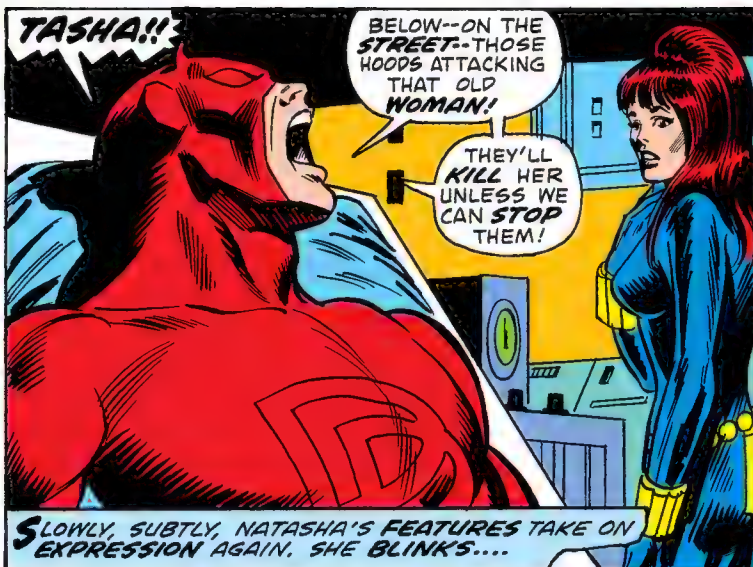
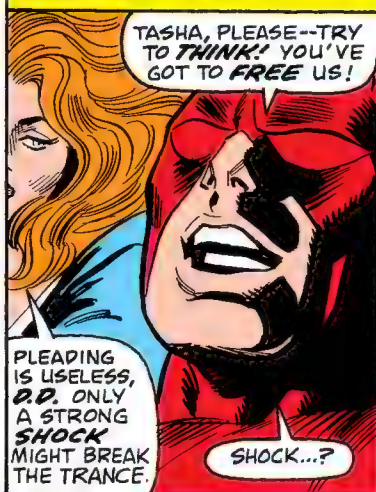


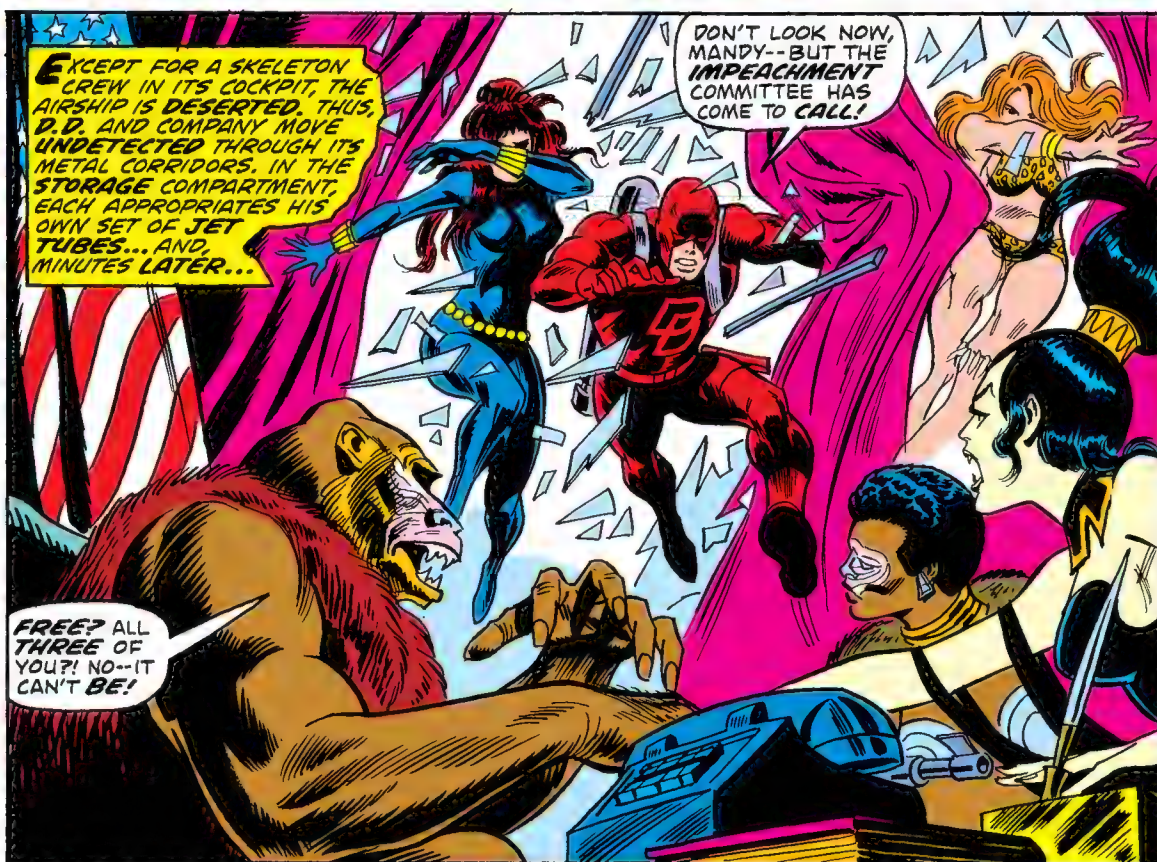
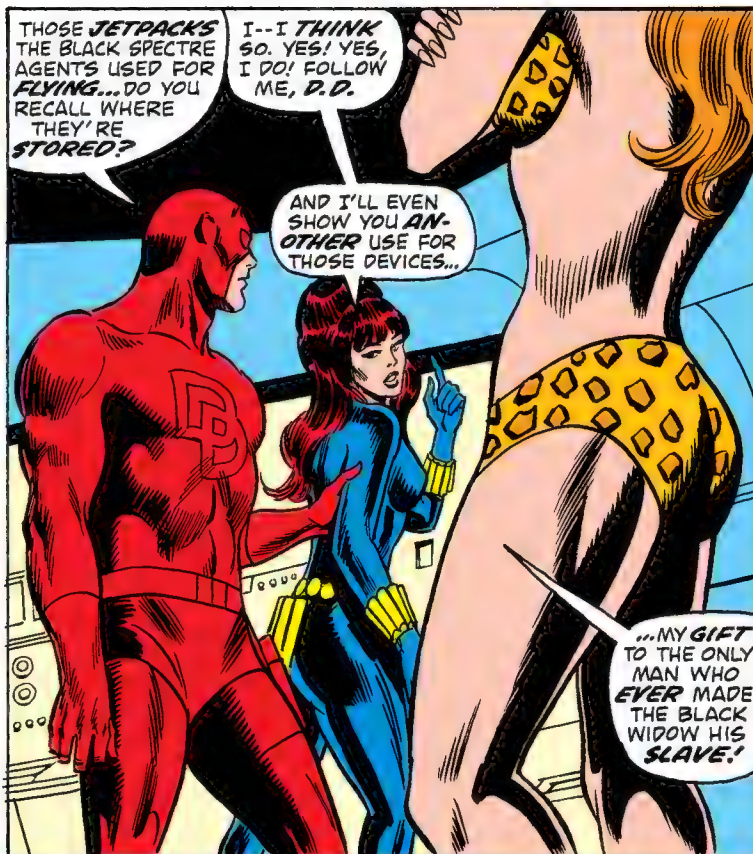
HE THROWS OPEN THAT DOOR WITH FIENDISH GLEE, RE-VEALING...

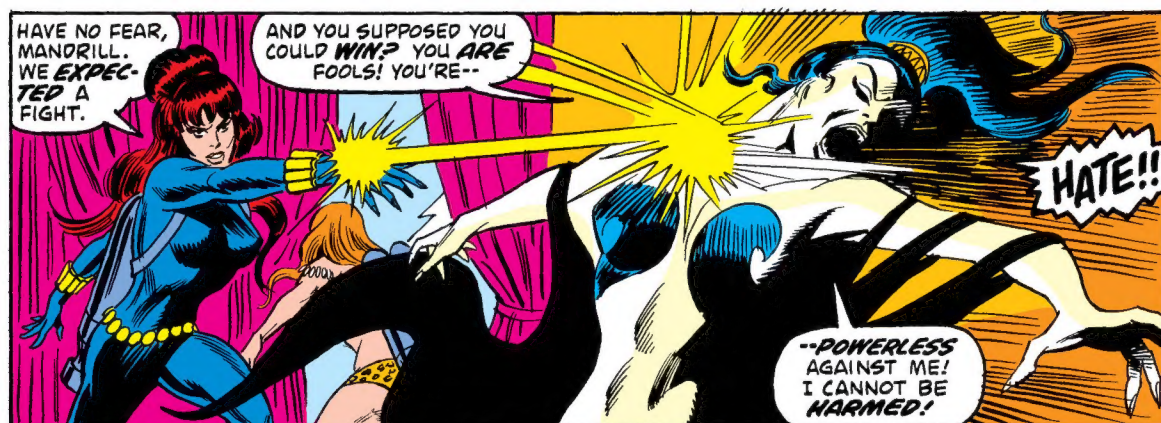
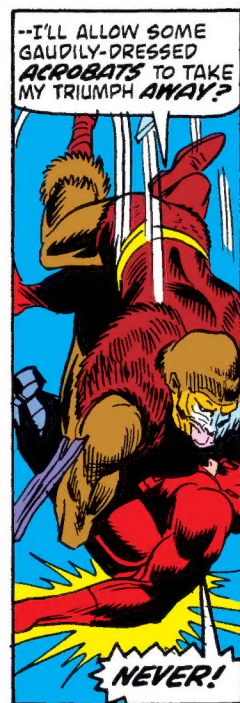
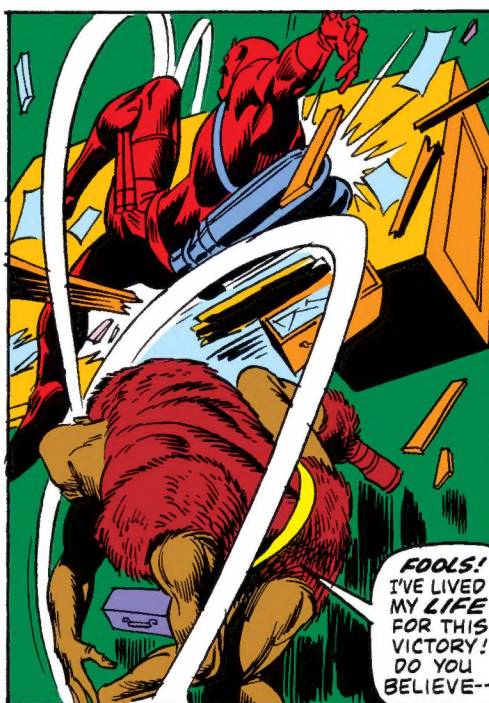
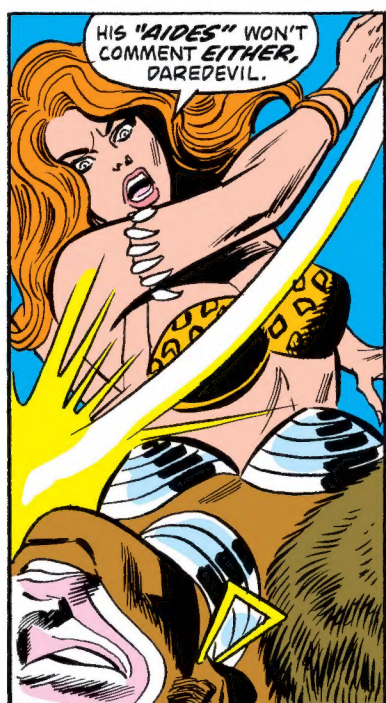
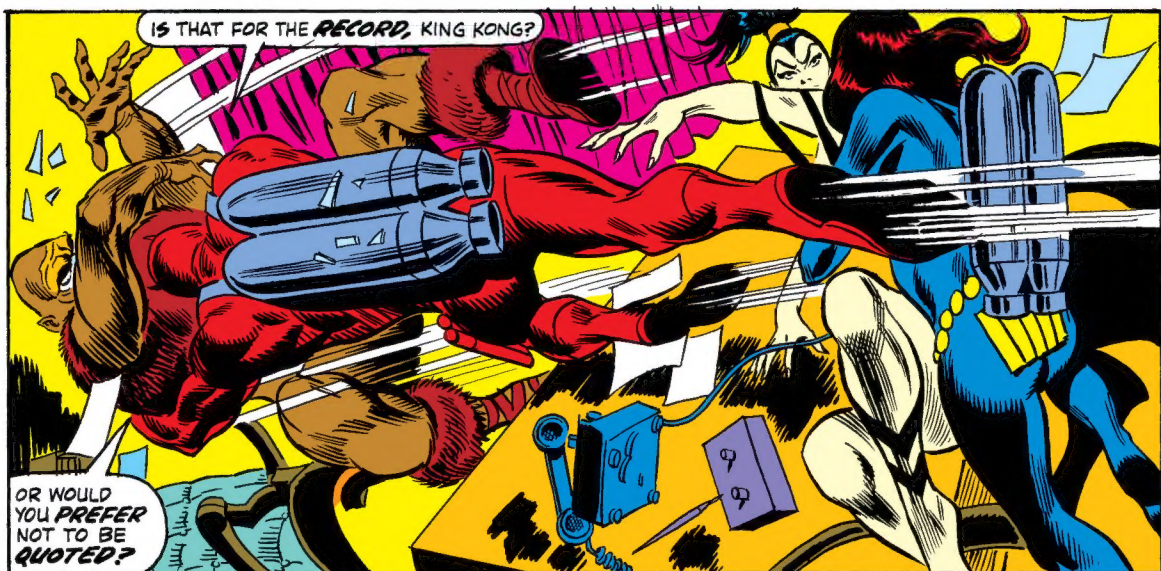
THE OVAL OFFICE--MY NEW SEAT OF EMPIRE!

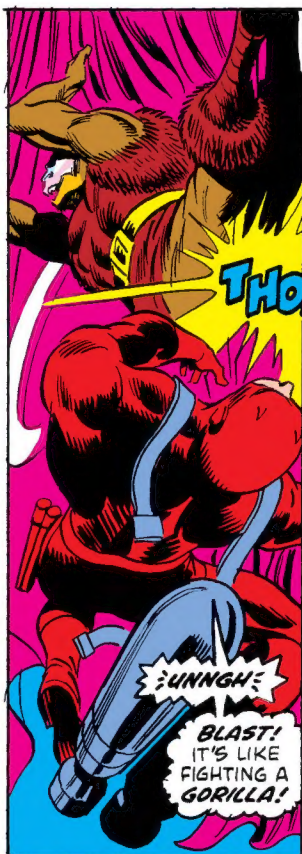
WE'VE DONE IT, MY PRIESTESS! AFTER ALL THE LONG YEARS OF TORMENT--WE'VE WON!

CUT: TO DAREDEVIL AND A NOW-AWAKENED SHANNA, FAR ABOVE THE MADNESS...









THOK

UNNGH

BLAST!
IT'S LIKE
FIGHTING A
GORILLA!



THE IDIOT! BY THE TIME
HE SCRAMBLES TO HIS
FEET, I'LL HAVE
REACHED THE ROOF--

--WHILE HE WILL
ALL TOO LOGICAL-
LY ASSUME I'VE
JOINED MY WAR-
RIORS ON THE
GROUND!



I NEED ONLY WAIT
UNTIL HE ATTEMPTS
TO PURSUE--THEN
GIVE THE ORDER TO
HAVE HIM SH--

THWIP

WHA--?



THIS IS IT, MANDRILL--THE GRAND
FINALE! EITHER YOU KILL ME--OR
SURRENDER TO ME! NO MORE
COMPROMISES!

B-BUT YOU
COULDN'T...
HOW DID YOU
KNOW...?



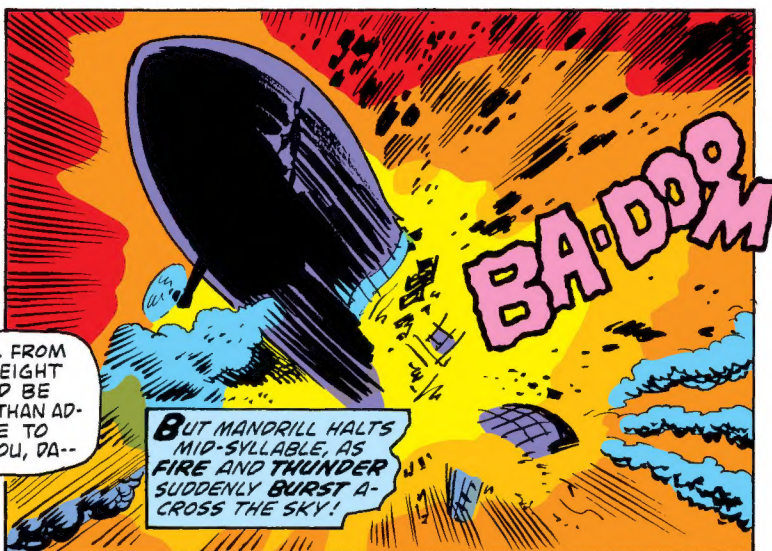
YOUR BRAIN MUST
BE THAT OF AN APE,
TOO, MANDRILL!

FWAK



YOU KNOW
ABOUT MY
BLINDNESS,
MY HYPER-
SENSES...

ALL I
HAD TO DO
WAS FOL-
LOW YOUR
SCENT UP
HERE!





DAREDEVIL'S RICK SENDS MANDRILL STAGGERING... SOMEWHAT FURTHER THAN DESIRED. HE TUMBLES BACKWARD. HE SCREAMS.

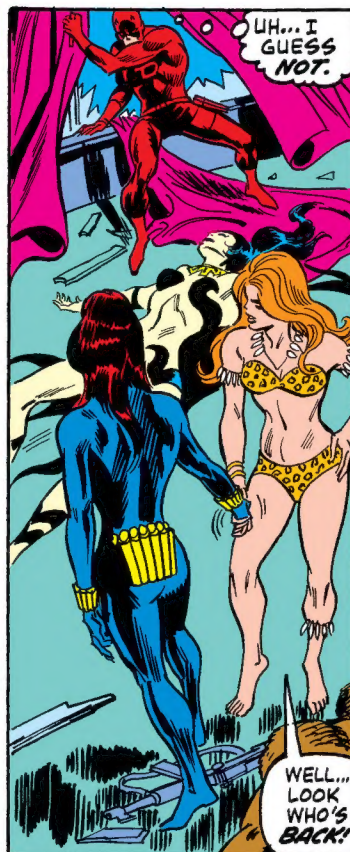


AND THEN THERE IS SILENCE.

HE FELL HEAD-FIRST. NO WAY HE COULD'VE SURVIVED. BUT I DIDN'T MEAN TO KILL HIM...

I LOATHED HIM... HOPED HE'D ROT IN JAIL FOR-EVER, BUT...

NO... NO TIME FOR REGRETS. NATASHA AND SHANNA MAY NEED ME!



UH... I GUESS NOT.

WELL... LOOK WHO'S BACK!



THE EXPLOSION TASHA RIGGED WITH THE JET-PACK FUEL CAME JUST IN TIME... BROKE NEKRA'S CONCENTRATION. AND WHEN SHE'S TOO STARTLED TO HATE...

SHE LOSES HER INVULNERABILITY. I KNOW.

MANDRILL'S DEAD. FELL FROM THE ROOFTOP.

ARE YOU CERTAIN? DID YOU EXAMINE THE BODY?

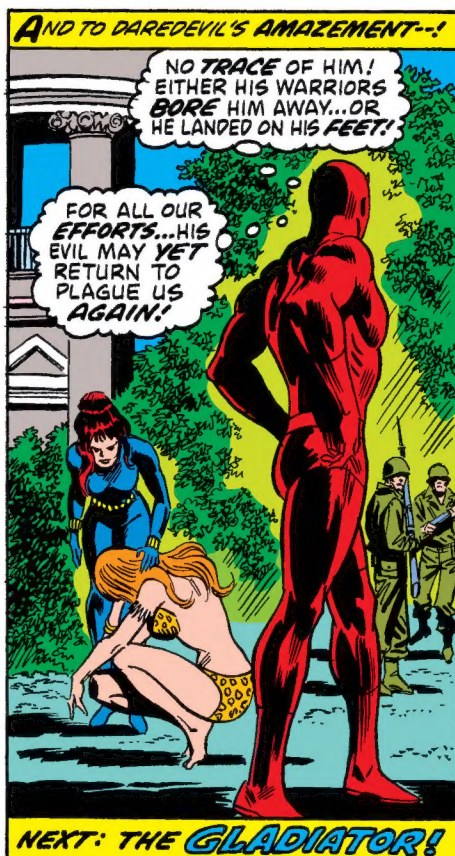
DIDN'T HAVE THE STOMACH FOR IT. BUT I'M SURE...



WELL, I WON'T BE 'TIL I'VE SEEN IT WITH MY OWN EYES!

SHANNA-- WAIT! THERE'S NO NEED--

HE MURDERED MY FATHER, DAREDEVIL. I HAVE TO BE SURE.



AND TO DAREDEVIL'S AMAZEMENT--!

NO TRACE OF HIM! EITHER HIS WARRIORS BORE HIM AWAY... OR HE LANDED ON HIS FEET!

FOR ALL OUR EFFORTS... HIS EVIL MAY YET RETURN TO PLAGUE US AGAIN!

NEXT: THE GLADIATOR!